

CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY:

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – 10.09.2013:

The **LEWISHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY** attended the meeting to present their displays. There were 19 people in attendance.

The President, Brian Asquith, declared the meeting open at 7.40pm and welcomed the four members of the Lewisham Philatelic Society who were invited to give their displays.



Colin Tobitt – Kenya.

Colin presented a colourful array of Kenyan stamps from independence in 1963 to 1987. The commemorative stamps showed the events throughout the period in the life of the country.



Albert Jackson – Undercover Mail.

During World War 2 it was illegal to communicate with Poland from abroad. Albert showed the various methods employed to get around the problem including Thomas Cook setting up Post Box 506, the use of intermediaries and the use the Polish Red Cross relief parcel service. Albert showed a variety of covers and printed cards sent to Poland from Portugal, Germany, Russia and the Middle East.



John Rawlings – Kraft Durch Freude

Kraft Durch Freude (Strength through Joy) was set up in Nazi Germany from 1933 on the premise that if the people are kept happy they will work harder and do better for the country. KDF covered many areas of cultural and sporting activities which people did in their non-working time. One aspect of this was the

creation of a High Seas Cruise Fleet established in 1934. Ships were used to take working class people on cruises in the English Channel, North Sea, the Fjords or Norway and the Mediterranean. John presented a beautiful written display of photographs of the ships plus cards with hand stamps of the various ships used for this purpose. With the onset of the Second World War the cruises were stopped in August 1939 and many of the ships commandeered for the German war effort.



Tony Hickey – Spreading the Word.

Tony presented a colourful display of British propaganda produced by the Ministry of Information to counteract that produced by Germany in the Second World War. Many of the cards were distributed through Portugal, a neutral country. There were a variety of cards highlighting for instance the disunity between Hitler and Mussolini, British victories, the strength of the British Commonwealth and humourous cards aimed against Germany.

Frank Simpson gave the Vote of Thanks highlighting the great variety in the presentations of the Lewisham P.S. members. Following viewing of the exhibits the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Graham Harker, Hon. Assistant Secretary
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